

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) introduced a resolution that commemorates the 20th anniversary of the release of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela from prison and recognizes his lifelong dedication to democracy, racial equality and building a more united world. **(Please find attached a copy of the resolution)**

“I am proud to introduce this resolution celebrating the 20th anniversary of an important moment in world history,” said Hastings. “Nelson Mandela was an extraordinary man who dedicated his life to equality, peace and reconciliation.”

On February 11, 1990, 71 year-old Nelson Mandela walked free from Victor Verster Prison in Paarl, South Africa after 27 years of imprisonment. His release resulted from decades of international pressure from activists, artists and politicians in South Africa and the international community, and was a defining moment in the movement to end apartheid and discrimination.

“Two decades after his release and over 15 years after he was elected President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela’s wisdom, strength and work continues to inspire people from all walks of life. I am truly honored to recognize his achievements and urge swift passage of this important resolution,” Hastings further noted.

Joining Congressman Hastings as original co-sponsors (38) are: Representatives Howard Berman (CA), Charles Rangel (NY), Gary Ackerman (NY), Sanford Bishop, Jr. (GA), Madeleine Bordallo (GU), Corrine Brown (FL), Kathy Castor (FL), Steve Cohen (TN), John Conyers (MI), Ander Crenshaw (FL), Joseph Crowley (NY), Elijah Cummings (MD), Eliot Engel (NY), Eni Faleomanuava (AS), Chaka Fattah (PA), Marcia Fudge (OH), Al Green (TX), Raul Grijalva (AZ), Mike Honda (CA), Bob Inglis (SC), Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX), Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX), Henry “Hank” Johnson, Jr. (GA), Carolyn Kilpatrick (MI), John Lewis (GA), Jim McDermott (WA), James McGovern (MA), Gregory Meeks (NY), Gwen Moore (WI), Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC), Donald Payne (NJ), Jared Polis (CO), Laura Richardson (CA), Bobby Rush (IL), Linda Sanchez (CA), Bennie Thompson (MS), Edolphus Towns (NY) and Diane Watson (CA).

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings is Vice Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a senior member of the House Rules Committee, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

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 [Mandela Resolution - 2.2010.pdf](#)